



friday, october 26, 2012

the collegian

INDEPENDENT VOICE FOR KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY



VOL. 118 NO. 49

kstatecollegian.com

Tomorrow:
High: 51°F
Low: 28°FSunday:
High: 55°F
Low: 34°F

03

Final prophecies
Edge features the last
edition of October's
"Horoscopes"

06

Bring on the bears
Wildcat volleyball
prepares for their
game against BaylorTots trick-or-treat
Our website has
the scoop on the
Children's Carnival

Chartwells to be replaced at end of year

University officials expect transition to be 'seamless'

Mike Stanton
assistant news editor

The K-State Student Union announced yesterday that, beginning on Jan. 1, 2013, Sodexo will take over the role of caterer and retail food service provider for the university.

According to a news brief released by the Union, Sodexo, who currently provides catering and concession services for K-State Athletics, will manage food services at all current dining locations, including the Union, Hale Library

and the Child Development Center. Sodexo will take over for Chartwells, who notified university officials of their intent to terminate an 18-month-old contract between the two parties on Oct. 1.

According to a letter written by Chartwells' president and CEO Steven Sweeney to Union director Bill Smriga, Chartwells had "sustained substantial financial losses operating the K-State food service program."

In the letter, Sweeney stated that his company could not continue to sustain those financial losses and invoked a section of the contract that allowed either party to terminate the agreement by providing 90 days notice.

"What we immediately did is

to begin to evaluate our options," Smriga said in an interview early this month.

According to Smriga, the university negotiated with Chartwells and invited Sodexo, who had lost the bid for the contract to Chartwells in 2010, to come to campus and make a presentation to shareholders, university officials and student government officials.

Smriga said that key leaders from the Student Governing Association were involved in every step of the decision-making process.

The decision for Sodexo to take over for Chartwells was made quickly to allow the new company to plan for the transition period, which will occur during the winter intermission. University officials

stressed that the transition will be seamless and have little impact on students.

"We are absolutely confident that we will continue to provide food service in the Union and catering service to all of our customers, uninterrupted," Smriga said.

According to the news release, Sodexo will honor all catering contracts and prices, and current pricing at retail restaurants will remain the same until June 30, 2013. Sodexo will also continue loyalty programs such as the refillable mug program and Cat Cash bonus bucks. Chartwells' hourly employees will retain their jobs, and Sodexo will honor their pay rates and match or improve on their benefits.

K-State briefs

Austin Nichols
news editor

Last day to drop classes

Today is the last day to drop a 16-week class and still receive a "W" on your transcript. After today, students cannot drop classes and will instead receive the grade they finish the course with. Refunds are no longer available.

Votes are in for the 2013 student ambassadors

The 2013 K-State student ambassadors will be announced Saturday at the Homecoming football game against Texas Tech University. The announcement will come during halftime along with recognition for the Homecoming Committee. The winners of Homecoming week will also be announced.

Each year, one male and one female are selected as student ambassadors by the student body. This year's candidates are Jessica Conwell, junior in mass communications, Ross Jensby, junior in political science, Heidi Hurtig, junior in marketing, Tyler Johnson, junior in management, Jordan Pridde, junior in family studies and human services, and Brett Seidl, junior in mass communications.

This means the terms of the 2012 student ambassadors, Andrew Waldman, senior in industrial engineering, and Philicia Thomas, junior in pre-journalism and mass communications, are coming to an end.

The student ambassadors spend a year representing the student body at events throughout the state and at university activities. Student ambassadors also visit with prospective students and alumni, attend K-State Alumni Association board meetings and assist with Alumni Association programming such as the Homecoming Committee.

Each ambassador receives a \$1,500 scholarship, clothing from Borck Brothers, a Manhattan clothing store, and the official K-State ring from the Alumni Association.

SGA funds Wildcraft Club trip to Nebraska

Zach Foley
staff writer

The Student Governing Association carried on a heated debate in the Big 12 Room regarding allocating money to the Wildcraft Club on Thursday. The bill was passed after a 38-22 vote in favor of allocating the new club money for their trip to Lincoln, Neb.

The bill regarding the Wildcraft Club was introduced last week for the allocation of funds to allow 16 members of the group to travel for a gaming tournament. The room was split on the issue with some members noting a lack of educational value in the group, while others argued to support the group on the grounds that it fosters communication and socialization among a group of students who are not usually involved on campus.

"[These students are] getting together, [which] sparks ideas," said Kayla Mohnsen, freshman in biological systems engineering.

However, Ellen Collingwood, sophomore in pre-journalism and mass communications, said that even though she supports the club, she does not support allocating them the money due to the lack of educational content involved.

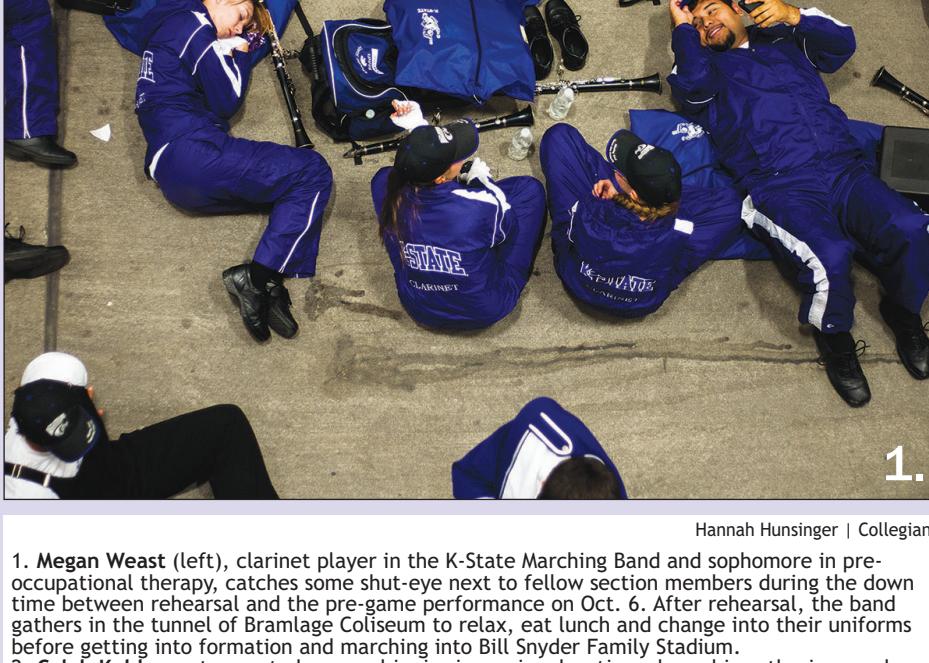
SGA also announced that the ongoing food service negotiations with Chartwells are over.

Speaker of the Student Senate Emilee Taylor, senior in sociology, informed the

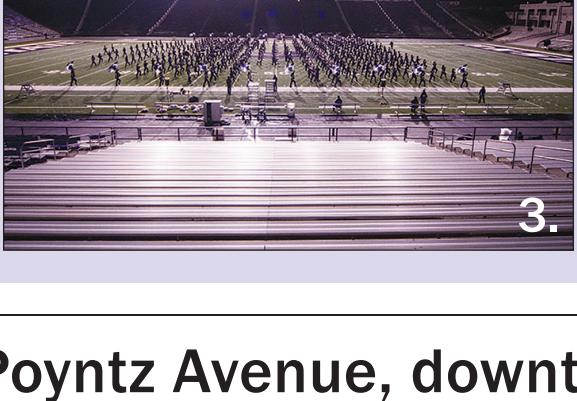
SGA | pg. 5



1. Megan Weast (left), clarinet player in the K-State Marching Band and sophomore in pre-occupational therapy, catches some shut-eye next to fellow section members during the down time between rehearsal and the pre-game performance on Oct. 6. After rehearsal, the band gathers in the tunnel of Bramlage Coliseum to relax, eat lunch and change into their uniforms before getting into formation and marching into Bill Snyder Family Stadium.



2. Caleb Kuhlman, trumpet player and junior in music education, shows his enthusiasm as he runs along the stands of Bill Snyder Family Stadium before the pre-game Marching Band performance on Oct. 6.



3. The Pride of Wildcat Land practice their pre-game show in an empty Bill Snyder Family Stadium in the early hours of the morning before the KU game on Oct. 6.

Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian
1.

Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian
2.

Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian
3.

Poyntz Avenue, downtown district to undergo renovations

Greg Janssen
contributing writer

It's easy to drive along Poyntz Avenue and not notice the single-head stoplight at the Fourth Street intersection.

"The driver kind of loses track of that single signal head between the awnings, the trees, the signs, people walking around," said Patrick Schaub, a landscape architect with Bowman Bowman Novick Inc.

This is one of the reasons that the Manhattan City Commission is cooperating with BBN to fix certain safety issues in the downtown district.

"We have a rear-end crash problem at that intersection," Schaub said. "[We want to] get that traffic signal pole head out over the driving lane so [the] driver sees that head when he's coming down Poyntz Avenue."

Pedestrian safety is also an area of concern, as addressed by the commissioners. Since vehicles park on the sides of Poyntz Avenue, it's difficult for pedestrians and drivers to see each other due to parked cars blocking their view.

"At the intersections, we're considering what we call 'bulb-outs,'" Schaub said. "So that's where the sidewalk gets wider at the intersections, shortening the crossing distance, giving you a safe haven."

Lights will also be strung over certain sidewalks in the downtown district

to better inform drivers of potential pedestrians.

In addition to safety improvements in the downtown district, the commission is also looking to update the streetscape along Poyntz.

"It will make it more of a friendly environment and easier for pedestrians to cross the street," said Mayor Loren Pepperd of the new plans.

Due to weathering and stress, BBN has decided to replace the trees along the sidewalks and build new tree wells to better accommodate the new incoming trees. The tree wells will allow more water and air to reach the trees' roots, giving them longer, healthier lives.

Curb and gutter replacement is also a major need after years of deterioration.

"Tearing out that curb and gutter will let us get underneath that area and open a trench so we can do irrigation improvements," Schaub said.

Electrical upgrades are also needed due to a history of lighting and circuitry problems.

Most of the improvements to the Poyntz Avenue streetscape were proposed by BBN in November 2011. After many months of consideration and modifications, construction is scheduled to start in March 2013.

"It's a definite plan, and they've been approved," Pepperd said. "You can go on the city website and find the plans."

Hunter Elliott, sophomore in archi-

tical engineering, is pleased with the decision to improve safety in the downtown district.

"I think putting money into the community that will better it in any way, as with this by reducing accidents, is always good and important," Elliott said.

The mayor is also excited to help fix up the major downtown thoroughfare.

"We've been promising downtown Manhattan that we'd do something about their streets for years and years," Mayor Pepperd said. "We finally built

a half of rehearsal the sun begins to color the sky a bright and clear blue. The tailgaters have gathered and the band is headed off to start their day with some classic Wildcat pep band music.

The band learns hundreds of pieces of music for football season and a new halftime show for each home game. During game weeks, they

PRIDE | pg. 6

up about a million dollars so we can do that."

No increase in property tax due to the construction is expected, according to the Oct. 1 City Commission agenda memo. More information on improvements to Poyntz Avenue can be found on the City of Manhattan website.

Editor's Note: This article was completed as an assignment for a class in the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

Marla Bramhall, Manhattan resident, crosses Poyntz Avenue on Thursday. Poyntz is set to undergo some updates to help solve safety and visibility issues.

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Horrorscopes: Halloween-themed horoscopes for the week of Oct. 28



Giant Spider
Scorpio Oct. 23 - Nov. 21
It might be a good idea to test out your new phaser if you decide to hit the 'Ville. Just don't forget to set it to "stun," or Devil's Night could prove to be an awkward time for you.



Evil Merman
Aquarius Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
Your quest for world domination will result in teaming up with Pinky and the Brain, but they'll become your archenemies when you decide to steal their theme song.



Mad Cow
Taurus April 20 - May 20
If you see someone dressed as the Doppler Effect for Halloween, try to be nice. Don't call him a zebra. You might need this guy's help next time your computer acts up.



Man-Eating Lion
Leo July 23 - Aug. 22
Your minions will begin to get cranky early next week, and you don't want to have a mutiny on your hands before the Halloween festivities. Ask yourself, "what would Colonel Meow do?"



Headless Horseman
Sagittarius Nov. 22 - Dec. 21
Halloween will leave you with a sense of foreboding, but you have nothing to worry about. Leprechauns usually go into hibernation this time of year. Elves, on the other hand...



Sharks
Pisces Feb. 19 - March 20
Halloween will provide ample opportunities to observe some interesting brawls, such as pirates versus ninjas, Trekkies versus Wookies and Ming the Merciless versus Zorak.



Jekyll and Hyde
Gemini May 21 - June 20
For the love of Julius Caesar, don't feed the zombies. They're only going to follow you home, and then you'll never get rid of them. Consider yourself forewarned.



Bearded Lady
Virgo Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
Beware of wardrobe malfunctions on Halloween. This might be harmlessly funny if you decide to dress as Lady Gaga, but it could be scary if you're the ED-209 from "RoboCop."



Rabid Goat
Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 19
Your ticket to YouTube fame is coming up next week... but it's not on Halloween! Keep your eyes peeled and camera ready. There's going to be a whole lotta stupid going on.



Zombie Sheep
Aries March 21 - April 19
The good news is, the stars have aligned themselves to give you a stress-free week. (Finally!) The bad news is, your roommate might get kidnapped by aliens... (Finally!)



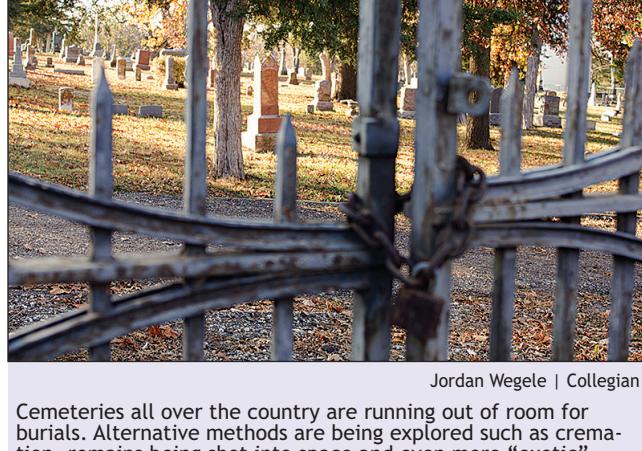
Cthulhu
Cancer June 21 - July 22
You have decided to make it your mission to sniff out the people who are not really wearing Halloween costumes – namely, Men in Black. (Forgetting the Neuralyzer is standard issue.)



Crooked Lawyer
Libra Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
It might sound like a good idea to go to the lab when you're drunk and try to construct a pet chimera, but it's not. You don't want to make the basilisk jealous.

-Compiled by Karen Sarita Ingram

Overcrowding leads to unique market for burial alternatives



Jordan Wegele | Collegian

Cemeteries all over the country are running out of room for burials. Alternative methods are being explored such as cremation, remains being shot into space and even more "exotic" choices, like turning a loved ones cremated remains into a diamond.

Joe Kucharski
contributing writer
Karen Sarita Ingram
edge editor

For K-State students, it can be hard to find a decent place to live near campus, but now a growing problem is making it harder to find a final resting place. With the elderly population increasing during the past few decades, the amount of available space in cemeteries worldwide has been shrinking.

In Australia, cemeteries have had to resort to methods such as reusing graves. In Connecticut, some graveyards have resorted to stacking two people into one grave. Hong Kong is considering a floating graveyard, a sort of cruise ship for the dead. Even Kansas is beginning to feel full. In 2007, the Topeka Capitol-Journal reported that Fort Riley's 150-year-old cem-

etary was near capacity and a new location was being added. This situation has made other options, such as cremation, more popular. A body can be taken straight to a crematorium, or can be transported there through a funeral home.

Doug Meloan, co-owner of Yorgensen Meloan Londren Funeral Home on Poynz Avenue, has observed a significant rise in the number of cremations over the years.

"I started in the business 32 years ago, [with cremation] at 7 percent," Meloan said. "It's jumped to 53 percent."

There are many unique alternatives for loved ones to reach their final resting place. One option is alkaline hydrolysis.

Final resting place
See kstatecollegian.com for more on alternatives to traditional burial

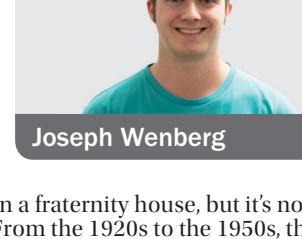
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SYDNEY
CARLIN
NOV. 6TH
for State Representative

Paid for by the Committee to elect
Sydney Carlin, John E. Carlin, Treasurer

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Murderabilia
See kstatecollegian.com to learn about the market for artifacts from famous killers and criminals.

Paranormal Frat-tivity: ghost haunts local fraternity house



Joseph Wenberg

I live in a fraternity house, but it's not just any fraternity. From the 1920s to the 1950s, the Delta Sigma Phi house used to be the Parkview Hospital before it moved and became Lafene Health Center. K-State and Delta Sig alum Loren Mall wrote a book called "Bedrock Values" on our chapter of the fraternity, and the book includes a couple of chilling stories of ghosts who haunt the halls of this old house.



Tommy Theis | Collegian
A Delta Sigma Phi paddle that is hung on the wall in the living room of their house. A ghost named George allegedly haunts an upstairs room of the house.

GHOST | pg. 5

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INTERSESSION | January 2–18, 2013

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- Career Skills for Drama Therapists
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- Inventing the Future: Underground Rock: 1968-1993
- Jazz in Kansas City and the Southwest
- Multicultural Considerations for the Helping Professionals
- Plan, Design, and Build for Public Interest
- Practicum in Bakery Technology
- Problems in ARE—Electrical Systems Installation
- Problems in ARE—Emergency and Stand-by Power System Design
- Problems in ARE—Revit MEP
- Relationship Marketing
- Scientific Instruments Machining
- Seminar/Long-Term Care Administration
- Sketching with Spaceprints
- Sound Art
- Sports, Advertising, and Global Culture
- Sport and Exercise Personality
- Stress Management
- The Bible Fictionalized
- Travel and Tourism Public Relations
- Wildland Fire Management

Online Classes

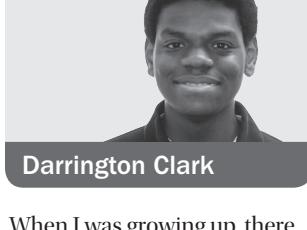
- Adolescent Substance Use: A Look at the Development of and Treatment Options for Substance Abuse
- Agricultural Business Communication
- Becoming an Effective Parent
- Behavioral Finance: The Psychology of Investing
- Developing Intimate Relationships
- Earth in Action
- Exploration of the Family Business
- Family Violence
- Geography of Tourism
- Human Geography
- Intercultural Issues Across Cultures
- Introduction to American Ethnic Studies
- Marriage Preparation and Enrichment

- Mindful Living
- Prb/Psychology - Top/Controversies in Psychology
- Problems/Engg and Tech: Hazwoper Training
- Racial and Ethnic Profiling in America
- The Intersection of Race, Ethnicity, and Identity Development on Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students
- Travel and Tourism Public Relations
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ENROLL NOW!
www.dce.k-state.edu/intersession

PETA Pokémon campaign shameful, misguided



Darrington Clark

When I was growing up, there were three things I was completely sure of: I was a smart kid, my mom loved me and I needed a Thunderstone to evolve my Pikachu.

I don't think there is anyone who can honestly say that they've never heard of Pokémon. In fact, I'm not surprised that there are thousands of adults who still play it, myself included. I enjoyed everything about it, from the games to the shows to the movies, and I've even referenced this love of mine in other opinion pieces. So, when someone, or some organization, calls my favorite game into question, you can expect me to sound off.

The People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals are at it again, but this time, they're "defending" the virtual world. On Oct. 8, PETA released a cute little flash game entitled, "Pokémon Black and Blue: Gotta Free 'Em All!" Posted on their website, the game is a response to Nintendo's release of "Pokémon Black and White 2."

The game features Pokémons from the Black and White games, including the infamous Pikachu, in their quest to free themselves from their abusive trainers and liberate other Pokémons. The Pokémons fight their trainers using moves such as "Shame," "Educate" and "Group Hug." A screenshot of the game features Pokémon trainer Ash Ketchum saying to Pikachu, "I don't hate you. I just don't care. Have I ever shown an inkling of concern about you one way or the other?"

Please, let me continue. The release of the game was also the

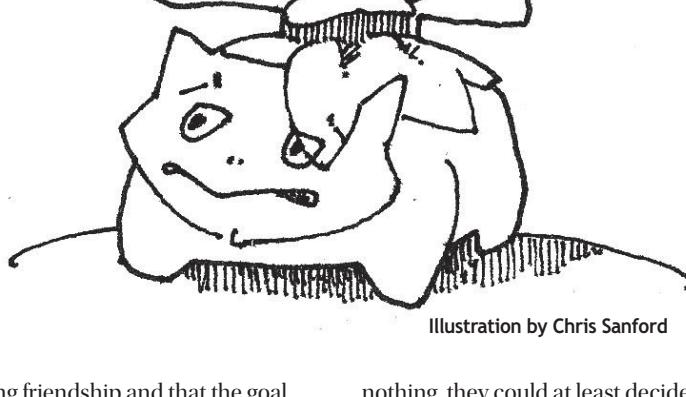
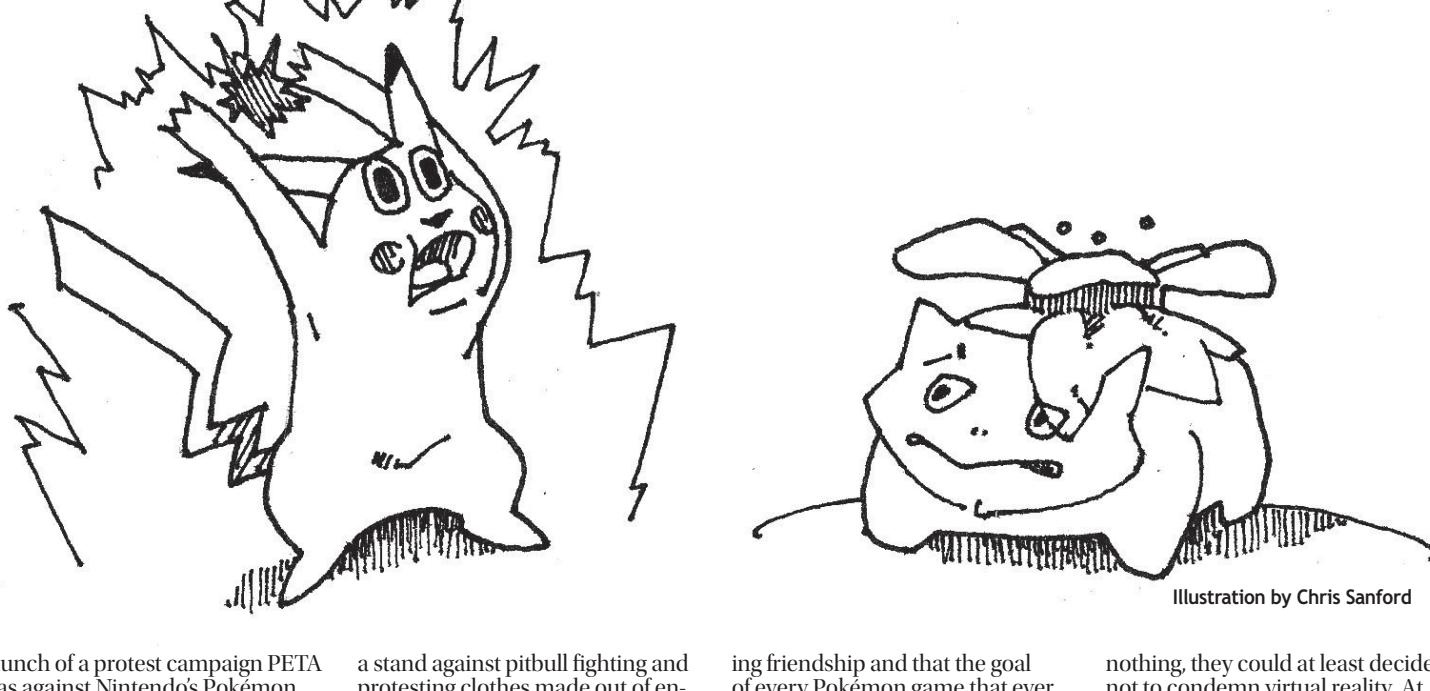


Illustration by Chris Sanford

launch of a protest campaign PETA has against Nintendo's Pokémon franchise, on grounds of promotion of animal cruelty and abuse. PETA has stated that the game forces children to train Pokémons to fight against each other, equating it to virtual dogfighting, and that the practice of putting Pokémons in tiny Pokéballs is animal confinement and abuse. If you're reading this and you aren't angry, I question the existence of your heart.

Now, before you accuse me of having my nerdy undies in a bunch, let me explain that I'm no stranger to PETAs antics. They're rarely past performing publicity stunts nowadays, and they make headlines by pouring paint on red carpet models and actively persecuting celebrities. I will add, though, that at least most of the time PETA is trying to fight something that's actually wrong. I totally understand making

a stand against pitbull fighting and protesting clothes made out of endangered animals, but Pokémon? My childhood? Oh no.

PETA has failed to do its research, on several counts. Pokémons and humans are not only friends, but are basically tailor-made to be together. Pokémons choose whom to follow and fight for based on friendship and respect, and it's not in a Pokémon's nature to seriously hurt anything.

And Pokéballs are actually quite comfortable and spacious. When Pokémons battle, it ends when the losing Pokémon is too worn out to fight, not dead. These were aspects that the games had to make up for by using a health bar and the word "fainted." Give Nintendo a break.

Even if PETA didn't do their research, and just picked up one game, they would see the pleasant dialogue, lovely life lessons, endear-

ing friendship and that the goal of every Pokémon game that ever existed is to stop an evil organization from abusing and misusing Pokémons. What a familiar cause.

I see PETA's (poorly executed) point. They don't want children to see Pokémon trainers going into the wild, hurting Pokémons and then capturing them for personal use, and think it's OK for them to do in real life.

Oh wait, that's stupid too. Video game emulation is a serious issue to consider, but the impact is greatest when the game is realistic. We're talking "Grand Theft Auto" and "Bully," video games that center around people in the real world, our world, who misbehave. It's a lot harder to tell your pet to do a Tail Whip against the neighbor's cat.

If PETA plans to continue blindly charging into crusades that do

nothing, they could at least decide not to condemn virtual reality. At the end of the day, what they're fighting here isn't real. Do you think they know? Maybe someone should tell them.

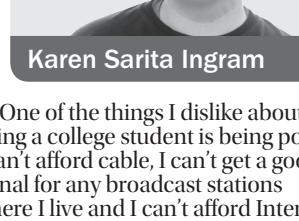
Hello PETA, my name is Darrington, and I'm an avid Pokémon fan. You've embarrassed yourself, and given me a great idea for an opinion article.

By the way, Nintendo is kind of pissed. Here's a snippet of their latest press release on the subject: "Nintendo and the Pokémon Company take the inappropriate use of our products and intellectual property seriously."

Nintendo uses Lawsuit! It's super-effective!

Darrington Clark is a sophomore in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

Lack of access to high quality, affordable Internet detrimental to US



Karen Sarita Ingram



Illustration by Erin Logan

One of the things I dislike about being a college student is being poor. I can't afford cable, I can't get a good signal for any broadcast stations where I live and I can't afford Internet. Subsequently, I am cut off from the outside world when I am at home. I can't even call Weatherline anymore because they discontinued the service on Oct. 15.

If I want to know what the weather is going to be like, and how to dress for it, I have to stick my head outside and guess or try to remember to look it up the night before while I'm at work (which I never do).

If I get home late in the evening from a long day and realize I need Internet to do something for school, I have to go through the inconvenience of donning pants and shoes and leaving the apartment to go find Wi-Fi somewhere, or just say "screw it, I'll get up early tomorrow."

It shouldn't have to be this way. Cable and Internet are basic services that other developed countries offer their citizens for far cheaper and at a better quality than anything we can find here. I don't just mean technologically magical places like Japan. According to a Sept. 24 Yahoo Finance article by Stacy Curtin, even Bulgaria has faster and cheaper Internet service than we do in America. (How many of

you can even find Bulgaria on a map?) The article, which discusses David Cay Johnston's book "The Fine Print: How Big Companies Use Plain English to Rob You Blind," describes how big businesses have basically destroyed our chances of ever getting fast, cheap Internet, because they make more money by strangling us with the pricey yet crappy service we have now.

To experience this for myself, I did some comparison shopping. (Bear in mind all prices I list are the regular monthly prices, not the cheaper price they offer you for the first six months of your contract.) Cox's cheapest Internet package for customers here in Manhattan is \$37.99 per month for a dismal speed of three megabits per second. The other packages they offer are 22 mbps, 35 mbps and 55 mbps, with prices that range from \$53.99 to \$99.99 for the fastest connection. I know some of you don't understand the speed numbers, but bear with me, here.

In England, I have found Internet packages for speeds of 100 mbps — that's nearly twice as fast as the highest speed Cox offers — for between 25 and 35 pounds. When you convert that into dollars, the British are paying between \$40 and \$56 per month. In other words, half as much money for twice as much speed. And a lot of these packages were bundled with phones, so you'd actually be getting more. Are you getting angry yet? It gets worse.

Next, I looked for the cheapest packages offered in England, and here's where I started screaming obscenities at the screen. They have packages available for five pounds per month, which is eight American dollars, for speeds of 14 mbps. Do you remember what the cheapest (and slowest) package was that Cox offered? Three mbps for \$37.99.

That wasn't even the cheapest

package I found. There were some even cheaper than that, but they did not come with unlimited downloads. You could potentially have Internet in England, if you only use it for checking email and the weather, for about three or four bucks. That's cheaper than a cup of coffee at Caribou.

I browsed other countries and other deals as well, but the story was pretty much the same. Many other companies better cater to their customers, too. I found a company in Germany that is geared toward American soldiers and their families that offers 16 mbps Internet, a phone with unlimited calling to your "home country" (the list included the U.S. along with six other countries) and 24/7 tech support for \$65 per month.

But the best part of all was that no contract is required and same-day cancellation is available. This is a huge benefit for military families, who must often pack up and move on very short notice. Can any G.I. get service like that here in their "home country?"

We invented the Internet. That's why we are the only country in the world that does not need a .au or .de in our web addresses. Why would we invent something as marvelous and world-altering as the Internet only to roll over and stop caring about it? We cannot expect to be a superpower in this world if we do not stay on top of technology, or at least keep up with other countries. We cannot continue to call ourselves "number one" when our greedy corporations hold us back and allow the rest of the world to outpace us so that they can make an extra buck. We need fast, affordable Internet. Period. Cox can suck it.

Karen Sarita Ingram is a senior in English. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

Cheerleading not actual sport, does not meet Title IX qualifications



Michelle Bertran

When you think of a sport, what's the very first thing that pops into your mind?

Maybe famous athletes, your favorite team or the gifts of natural talent and athleticism? Cheerleading consists of none of these things, which is why I don't consider it a sport.

As a matter of fact, according to an Aug. 7 Associated Press article published on espn.go.com, a federal appeals court upheld a U.S. district court decision against Quinnipiac University, which ruled that colleges cannot count competitive cheerleading as a sport.

According to the article, "the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found that competitive cheerleading does not yet meet the standards of a varsity sport under Title IX."

The article cited U.S. District Judge Stefan Underhill, who,

according to the article, declared in 2010 that "competitive cheerleading did not have the organization, post-season structure or standardized rules required to be considered a varsity sport."

While it was pointed out that an "activity" can be considered a sport under certain Title IX regulations, "the activity also must have competition as its primary goal — not merely the support of other athletic teams," according to the espn.go.com article.

Great quantities of talent and athleticism aren't required to be considered a cheerleader. Don't get me wrong, there are definitely competitive cheerleaders who can do various flips and acrobatics, which require athleticism. However, there are also many cheerleaders who stand around making cheesy/scary facial expressions while doing stiff arm movements and shouting corny phrases.

In the high school I graduated from, the cheerleaders were the girls who didn't make it onto the dance team or sports teams. Cheerleading was merely the last extracurricular activity they had to resort to.

Dancing, unlike cheerlead-

ing, is an art; to be a dancer requires technique, talent and artistry. And in sports, at least on varsity sports teams, you can't just try out randomly in high school, train for a couple of

months and immediately start playing the way that you can in cheerleader; you can be one of the girls standing in the background making disturbing facial expressions and robotic arm movements.

Furthermore, I challenge

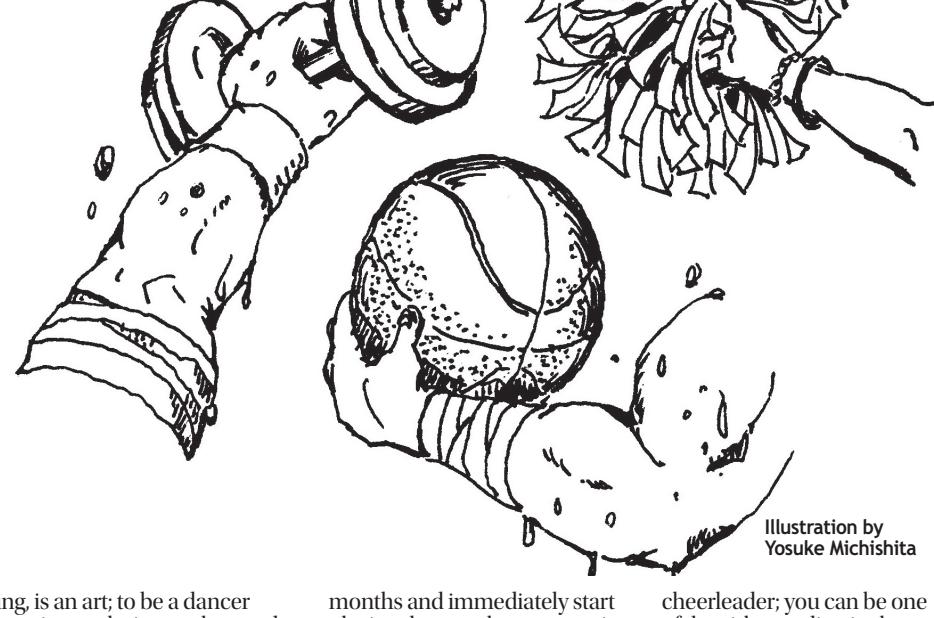


Illustration by Yosuke Michishita

you to attend a cheerleading competition and not leave after the first three routines. Cheerleading routines tend to lack creativity and originality in their choreography and music. Some teams might throw in their own style, but routines are still extremely similar and many times predictable and redundant.

In sports, creativity and originality are essential, as players must come up with scheming plays to blow out the opposing team. Sports games are also not typically redundant or predictable unless one team is either terrible or incredible compared to the other, which is not that common in matchups.

If cheerleading were truly a sport, wouldn't it be in the Olympics? The Olympics have events for everything, from handball to table tennis to badminton. But the Olympics don't seem to be in a rush to include cheerleading.

I'll just put it this way: if cheerleading is a sport, then LeBron James, Derek Jeter and Ray Lewis are ballerinas.

Michelle Bertran is a sophomore in journalism and mass communications. Please send comments to opinion@kstatecollegian.com.

GHOST | George infamous for love of 'Star Trek,' playing pranks, residents say

Continued from page 3

My fraternity brothers and I have a few stories of our own experiences with the friendly remnants of people who died in what is now our home.

During the first semester that I lived in the house, I lived on the third floor in what is known as "George's Room." "George" refers to George Segal, a man who died in my old room when Delta Sig was the Parkview Hospital. His unfortunate death came as the result of some inattentive nurses.

Mall wrote about Segal's death in his book. The following is an excerpt:

"When the hospital staff moved patients to the new county hospital in 1954, one of the relocations did not go well. A nurse and an aide transferred an elderly man to a rolling bed. They left him in his room... to prepare other patients for the transfer. When a nurse's aide returned to get him, the bed was there but he was not in sight. During the long wait, he rolled off the bed and wedged between the bed frame and the wall. Left in that suffocating position, the old man died quietly during the night."

The most infamous story about George is a tale from the 1970s, when an ice storm

knocked out power in the entire town. At 4:30 every day while the power was out, the TV in the gallery would turn on for the show "Star Trek," and would turn off as soon as the show was over. It was the only documented case of electric power during the duration of the multi-day outage.

In my time as the occupant of George's room, I noticed strange instances of flickering lights, my windows opening and closing, and the fan turning on and off in the middle of the night. The ghost, however, does not limit his reign to just that room.

Chayce Wynn, sophomore in biology, was not a believer

in ghosts or poltergeists before he moved into the house this fall. That quickly changed when some interesting things began happening in his room on the third floor.

"I get back to my room about 2:30 in the morning," Wynn said. "I'm laying down and suddenly I hear this squeaking noise. At first I thought it was my fan just blowing something in the room, so I let it go. After this continued for about five minutes, I started to think it was some of my brothers messing with me trying to get me to believe in George. I turned on the light to see if any of them were under my bed, and nobody was there. When I get

out of bed, I see that my desk chair is rocking back and forth and that's where the squeaking noise is coming from. As soon as I get out of bed to stop it from rocking, it stopped by itself."

It's pretty clear that George likes to play pranks on people. When instigated, his pranks become a little more serious than just a flicker of the lights or rocking in somebody's chair. Niklas Bergstrom, senior in construction science, has been the object of George's pranks.

"When I found out George liked 'Star Trek' I decided to blast some 'Star Wars' music in my room," Bergstrom said. "I

had just finished brushing my teeth, and set my toothpaste down to turn up the volume on the speakers. As soon as I did this, my toothpaste launched across the room, and I knew it had to be George."

Whether you choose to believe these stories or not, what the residents of this house believe is simple — we're not the only ones here. Every five or so years, a new group of people moves in, but as long as this house stands, another presence will be felt.

Joseph Wenberg is a sophomore in public relations. Please send comments to edge@kstatecollegian.com.

SGA | Basketball points system revamped

Continued from page 1

room that the university is no longer looking into a new contract with current food service provider Chartwells and instead signed a contract with a new company, Sodexo.

Additionally, a new system has been implemented to allow students to attend the KU basketball game.

SGA received a briefing on the new points system that will be enforced during the upcoming basketball season. The new system will reward students who

are constant supporters throughout the season with earlier entry into the game against KU.

Students will gain a point for every basketball game they attend, and students with the most points will be let in first and have the best seats. The new system was enacted because of the inefficiency, according to the SGA, of the previous system and prevents students from having to camp out to get the best seats.

The meeting also included speeches from two candidates running for political office.

Aaron Estabrook, a Democrat

running for the 67th district, and Tom Hawk, a Democrat running for state senate, spoke to the SGA about their beliefs on funding for education. Both support an increase in funding for education, which they said will be gained by rescinding the tax cut for the wealthy.

"Tuition at K-State has risen by 108.4 percent in the last 10 years," Hawk said. "We can't price you out with tuition hikes."

SGA will meet again next Thursday in the Big 12 room of the K-State Student Union at 7 p.m.

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PRIDE | Hard work 'definitely worth it' says one band member



Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian

The sousaphone section of the K-State Marching Band huddles as part of a pre-performance ritual outside of Bramlage Coliseum before marching into Bill Snyder Family Stadium for the pre-game show on Oct. 6.



Hannah Hunsinger | Collegian

A band member snaps on his spats in Bramlage Coliseum while changing into his uniform before the Oct. 6 football game against KU.

Continued from page 1

practice five and a half hours and start prepping for their part in the game eight hours before kickoff.

"[It] takes quick learners, it takes a really hard work ethic ... the students that come in here understand what it takes," said Frank Tracz, who has been the director of bands at K-State for 20 years.

Megan Weast, clarinet player and sophomore in pre-occupational therapy, said the hard work is worth every minute.

"It's a lot of hard work, but definitely worth it when you get to play for the team and share in their victory," Weast said.

The band gathers in the

tunnel of Bramlage Coliseum before the pre-game show, where they eat and change into their uniforms. They're awake and ready to pump up the Wildcats and fans.

"Getting up at 6 a.m. is a little tricky sometimes, but it's totally worth it, because, me, I'm a football enthusiast, and I cheer through my horn at game days," said Caleb Kuhlman, trumpet player and junior in music education.

After a few pre-performance rituals — the trumpet players good-naturedly taunt the other sections and Tracz gives a pep talk — the Pride is off and marching through a crowd restless for game day action and into a stadium that explodes into cheers at the sight of the band.

Volleyball team to face Baylor at home

Mark Kern
sports editor

Coming off of a dominating victory over West Virginia in Morgantown on Wednesday, the Wildcats (19-3, 6-3 Big 12 Conference) look for their third straight win as they take on the Baylor Bears (16-8, 3-6) on Saturday.

In the two teams' previous matchup, the Wildcats were able to win in four sets behind big performances from Kaitlyn Pelger and Courtney Traxson.

Junior middle blocker Pelger finished with 23 kills while junior outside hitter Traxson added 10 in two-and-a-half sets of play.

Senior setter Caitlyn Donahue had a strong performance in the match against West Virginia, finishing with 27 assists and seven digs, and will again be counted on to get the offense in position as the Wildcats play host to Baylor. The Bears are coming off of a strong performance in Austin, Texas, where they were three points away from forcing a fifth set before a Texas run ended the match.

The Bears are led by senior setter Kate Harris, a Missouri transfer who is now in her first full season as the starting setter for Baylor.

Harris ranks fourth in the Big 12 with 10.6 assists per set, and, like Donahue, is very good at distributing the ball to all of her teammates and keeping the defense on their toes.

With KU slipping in Ames on Wednesday, the Wildcats are only one game out of being tied for second place in the Big 12.

First serve is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Saturday in Ahearn Field House.

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